

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

5 A system for providing statistical multiplexing of speech, other real-time data services and non-real-time data services for point to point and point to multipoint communications. The system has fast access and assignment procedures that allow the multiplexing of real-time, delay-critical data services with non-real-time data services. Continuity of periodic control channels across speech talkspurt and silence periods for conversational voice is maintained to carry signal measurement reports, channel quality feedback, and "comfort" noise information between different parts of the system.